

East European Democracy Act of 1989 and that provides certain guidelines for such assistance and related assistance to that region.

While supporting continued United States assistance for the countries of Southeast Europe, this measure makes it clear that no United States bilateral assistance, other than that provided for democratization and humanitarian purposes, may be provided to the Republic of Serbia until the character of its government has changed. It does, however, ensure that aid may proceed to the region of Kosovo. It also authorizes a special program to assist the democratic opposition throughout Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro, providing for \$42 million in fiscal year 2001 for that purpose alone. This measure also ensures that at least \$55 million will be provided for economic and political reforms in the Republic of Montenegro in fiscal year 2001 in recognition of the increasingly positive efforts the Government of Montenegro has taken in support of democracy, peace, and stability in the Balkans region.

H.R. 4053 indeed provides some important limitations on United States assistance to Southeastern Europe. In addition to prohibiting bilateral assistance for economic reforms in the Republic of Serbia until the character of its government has changed for the better, it requires that assistance for democratization in Serbia not be channeled through the Serbian Government or through those individuals who do not subscribe to effective measures to ensure truly democratic government in Serbia. It also sets forth United States policy regarding the apprehension and trial of suspected war criminals, such as Slobodan Milosevic.

Mr. Speaker, this measure also takes an important step in recognizing that, while the United States has and will continue to provide considerable aid to the states of Southeastern Europe, the predominant burden in that region must be upheld by our friends and allies in Europe. The United States is facing increasing burdens in our efforts to fight drugs and terrorism in Colombia, to support the peace process in the Middle East, and to fight the proliferation of technology related to weapons of mass destruction. Our military forces are also stretched thin, with peacekeeping missions in the Balkans adding to that strain. This measure would therefore limit United States bilateral assistance to the countries and region of Southeastern Europe to a certain percentage—15 percent—of the total aid provided by the European Union under the Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe or under any other such multilateral aid program for that region. Such a cap, while ensuring that United States assistance will continue, will also ensure that the European Union and other donors take the lead in this region of Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be joined by several members of the International Relations Committee in introducing this important legislation, including Congressman CHRIS SMITH, Congressman BEREUTER, Congresswoman ROS-LEHTINEN, Congressman ROHRBACHER, Congressman GOODLING, Congressman HYDE, Congressman GILLMOR, Congressman MCHUGH, Congressman MANZULLO, Congressman RADANOVICH, and Congressman COOKSEY. Congressmen BILL YOUNG, DELAY, SPENCE, DOOLITTLE, SOUDER, MICA, and TRAFICANT are also sponsors of this measure, and I am hopeful that it will gain the support of other of our colleagues as well.

HONORING DR. VELMA
BACKSTROM SAIRE

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Dr. Velma Backstrom Saire for her distinguished career in education, and especially for her being named as this year's Distinguished Woman in Education by the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Saire will be concluding 45 years as a public educator when she retires this June from her position as Assistant Superintendent for the Quaker Valley School District in Sewickley, PA. Her professional career includes experience as a Restructuring Specialist for the Mon Valley Education Consortium and service in school districts in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, California, New Hampshire, and Connecticut as an elementary teacher and principal, special education teacher, director of the Allegheny County Schools Child Development Centers, central office administrator, middle school and high school principal, and part-time university instructor. She counts her experience as one of the developers of the Model School in McKeesport in the late 60's and early 70's, as the "Camelot of her career." She has been a consultant and workshop leader at professional meetings throughout the nation on a number of topics related to curriculum and supervision. Since Carnegie Mellon University's John Heinz School of Policy and Management's Educational Leadership program's inception 10 years ago, she has been an adjunct professor where she helps prepare future school administrators. She notes that she will continue to do this after her retirement.

Both high schools she led were designated as Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education, recognizing them as exemplary schools along with the other 100 top schools selected each year. She has served as a site visitor for this program and as a reader for the U.S. Department of Education's National Dissemination Network. In 1992, she received the Educational Leadership Award from the University of Pittsburgh's Tri-State Study Council. In 1989, the Connecticut Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development designated her as one of three finalists for their Educational Leader of the Year Award. As a Connecticut high school principal, she was one of 25 public school educators selected for membership in the prestigious 100-member Headmasters Association, a group in which she continues to hold membership as an honorary member.

A graduate of Glassport Jr.-Sr. High School, she is cum laude graduate of the University of Pittsburgh where she received a B.S. in Elementary Education, her M.Ed. in School Administration in 1967, and her Ed.D. in Administration in 1973.

She serves her local church as Chairman of the Council on Ministries, Chairman of the Memorial Endowment Fund, and is a member of the Administrative Board. She is on the Sewickley Public Library's Board of Trustees.

On a personal note, it is a special pleasure for me to recognize this distinguished woman in education because many years ago she was the little girl whom I escorted to a junior high school dance.

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF
ENGINEERS

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I have worked with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for my entire service in Congress. I have always found the integrity of the Corps beyond question. I have great confidence in the Corps, including an outstanding group of people who work in the Huntsville, Alabama, Division office of the Corps.

Serious charges have been laid on the military leadership of the Corps by some in the press recently. These claims about the soundness of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois River Navigation Study must be fully evaluated and whatever steps these evaluations indicate to be appropriate must be taken. Until that time, however, I find it unacceptable and unfair to our armed forces to challenge the professional appointees who have given their entire professional career to serve this country. All of these officers have come highly recommended by their peers. Many of us have worked with them earlier in our careers.

The Upper Mississippi and Illinois River Navigation Study has not been completed and is yet to be distributed for state and agency review. To criticize the unknown outcome of the study before the public review has even started may inhibit reasoned development of final recommendations for water improvement by the Secretary of the Army and unfairly color Congress' deliberations on those recommendations. There are certainly many potential alternatives and points of view that have to be considered; there is not just one. There are many uncertainties and unknowns that we will encounter as we plan and prepare for the future, but there is one certainty: the importance to the national welfare of navigation as an essential element of a sound transportation infrastructure.

Through the Corps Civil Works program, the Federal Government has created the world's most advanced water resources infrastructure contributing to our unprecedented standard of living. The program is essentially a capital investment and management program that returns significant economic, environmental, and other benefits to the nation. Though relatively small in the context of total Federal expenditures, investments in, and sound management of the Corps water resources projects have beneficial effects that touch almost every facet of modern American society—navigation projects that provide the Nation with its lowest-cost mode of transportation for bulk commodities; flood control projects that protect the lives, homes and businesses of thousands of Americans; and recreation facilities that enable millions of visitors to relax and enjoy the beauty of our country's waters.

I say that these kinds of decisions are extremely complex and controversial and are best left to the American people, acting through the Congress, to make. The stakes are so high and the potential impacts so great because national security, national competitiveness in the global market place, national health and welfare, and economic well-being of the Midwest grain producers, just to mention a few considerations are at stake. And I,

as a member of this body, stand ready to review all of the alternatives and to make the difficult decisions that are necessary to serve our great nation and the needs of my constituents.

There are many outstanding public servants, military and civilian, involved in this and other Corps studies. I support the Corps' process and urge my colleagues to join me in expressing confidence that the Corps, working together with all of the interest groups, as it has so often in the past for great national benefit, will produce recommendations from the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Navigation Study that will stand the test of time.

TRIBUTE TO BOBB MCKITTRICK

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of Bobb McKittrick of San Mateo, California. Mr. McKittrick, the longtime offensive line coach of the San Francisco 49ers, passed away last Wednesday after a lengthy battle against bile duct cancer. He leaves behind a loving family and a reputation as one of the premiere leaders and motivators in the National Football League. His legacy includes the affection of the hundreds of athletes whose lives he touched with his passion, determination, and commitment to excellence as well as to tens of thousands of devoted fans, for whom he was an example of dedication and public spiritedness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that an article by Michael Silver from the April 26, 1999, issue of Sports Illustrated about the courage, inspiration, and example of Bobb McKittrick be placed in the RECORD. It chronicles his extraordinary coaching record with the 49ers, his positive influence on the careers and lives of his players and friends, and his characteristically tenacious fight against cancer. Mr. Speaker, the story of Bobb McKittrick is an inspiring one.

ONE TOUGH CUSTOMER: OUTSPOKEN NINERS ASSISTANT BOBB MCKITTRICK IS BATTLING CANCER AND LIVER DISEASE WITH THE SAME FIERCE DETERMINATION THAT MADE HIM ONE OF THE BEST COACHES IN THE GAME

They were embattled behemoths in big trouble, and they felt like the smallest men on earth. Late in the third quarter of a game against the Eagles on a chilly September afternoon in Philadelphia 10 years ago, Harris Barton and his fellow San Francisco 49ers offensive linemen trudged off the field with their heads down and their ears pricked. Joe Montana, the Niners' fine china, had been sacked eight times. The Eagles led by 11 points, and censure was a certainty: Coach George Seifert's face was convulsing like Mick Jagger's, offensive coordinator Mike Holmgren was growling into his headset, and offensive line coach Bobb McKittrick was preparing to vent his frustrations. As the linemen took a seat on the bench, McKittrick stared down at veterans Guy McIntyre, Bubba Paris and Jesse Sapolu and said calmly, "You three might want to start praying about now." Then he turned to Barton. "And Harris," McKittrick added, "if you know a Jewish prayer, you might want to say it."

Without swearing, getting personal or raising his voice, McKittrick, a former Marine

who makes Chris Rock seem vague and indirect, had delivered a sharp motivational message. The linemen buckled down, Montana threw four touchdown passes in the fourth quarter, and San Francisco won by 10. The next day McKittrick called Montana into an offensive line meeting and apologized for the breakdown in protection. Montana shrugged it off, but word got around, giving players another reason to respect a man who may be the most successful position coach of his era.

In a business in which coaches get relocated, recycled and removed as a matter of course, McKittrick, 63, has been the Niners' offensive line coach for 20 seasons. During that time San Francisco has won five Super Bowls and put together the most successful two-decade run in NFL history, and the fact that McKittrick has been entrenched in the same job throughout that span, under three head coaches, is not accidental. In addition to routinely milking exceptional production out of players overlooked or cast off by other teams, McKittrick has been the glue that has held together the Niners' vaunted West Coast attack. Bill Walsh, recently rehired as San Francisco's general manager, says McKittrick "has developed more offensive line knowledge than anyone, ever. The continuity of the line, its consistent ability to protect the quarterback and open running lanes, has been the cornerstone of the 49ers' success over the past 20 years, and without Bobb, I don't think it happens. His men have played longer, with better technique, more production, fewer injuries. In every possible category you can measure, he's right at the top."

The Niners are so queasy about the notion of ever working without McKittrick that they told him he'd have a job for life when he was mulling an offer to become the St. Louis Rams' offensive coordinator after the 1994 season. He recently signed a two-year deal, and in the weeks leading up to the draft, he was busy breaking down film on top line prospects—an endeavor that in most years is about as fruitful for McKittrick as Academy Award voters viewing Brian Bosworth movies. The San Francisco brass concentrates on drafting talent at other positions and relies on McKittrick to excel with lesser-regarded linemen. Few coaches have done so much with so little, but no one is taking McKittrick for granted anymore.

In January, four days after the 49ers were eliminated from the NFC playoffs by the Atlanta Falcons, McKittrick received a medical double whammy: Doctors told him that he had cancer and that he needed a liver transplant. McKittrick, whose colon was removed 17 years ago after precancerous cells were detected, has a malignancy on his bile duct. He has begun undergoing radiation and chemotherapy at Stanford Hospital in Palo Alto. He needs a liver transplant because he is suffering from cholangiocarcinoma. He is on a waiting list for a new liver.

While his relatives, friends and colleagues are worried sick, McKittrick, predictably, has been calm, even upbeat. Though down 20 pounds from his normal 200, he insists on keeping the bulk of his coaching responsibilities, faithfully reporting to work with the catheter used to administer chemotherapy treatments sticking out of his left arm. "It's a difficult situation," he says, "but I went through six weeks of boot camp, and it can't be any worse than that. I think I can go through anything—and it sure beats the alternative."

On a mild Monday afternoon in late March, McKittrick walks into the three-bedroom house in San Mateo where he and his wife, Teckla, have lived since 1979. "You've got this place freezing," he tells her before leaving the room to turn up the heat. "He's

cold," Teckla says to a visitor. "Now can you tell something's wrong?"

Raised in Baker, a northeast Oregon farm town where the winters are frigid, McKittrick developed a stubborn resistance to cold at an early age. He unfailingly wears shorts and a T-shirt to even the most bone-chilling practice sessions, and when the 49ers travel to colder climes, McKittrick packs lightly. During a Monday-night game played in freezing rain at Chicago's Soldier Field in October 1988, McKittrick wore a short-sleeve shirt but no jacket. At one point his teeth were chattering so much that he was unable to enunciate a running play to Walsh, who subsequently decreed that all coaches must cover their arms during harsh weather. When the Niners returned to Chicago the following January for the NFC Championship Game, McKittrick complied with the new policy by donning a windbreaker—on a day in which the windchill factor reached -47[degrees]. At such moments McKittrick, with his shaved head and stocky frame, seems to be as much caricature as character. "Everybody notices the physical part, but when it comes to emotional strength, he's probably the toughest person I know," says Seifert, who now coaches the Carolina Panthers. "He has an ability to deal with things that would shatter most people."

After having his colon removed, McKittrick wore a colostomy bag for a year before a second operation allowed him to discard it. "He had this device strapped to his hip," Seifert says, "and I'll never forget the sight of him running onto the practice field holding that bag so it wouldn't fall. How devastating and emotionally trying that must have been. Had it been me, I don't know that I could have coached again."

McKittrick's toughness is rivaled only by his bluntness. "He's brutally honest with me, too," says Teckla, who married Bobb in 1958. "It's one thing when he tells me my hair looks funny, but I'm constantly worried he's going to get fired [for speaking his mind]." Barton says he and other linemen used to write down some of McKittrick's more eye-opening statements. "One of the classics was when we drafted this 6'7" guy named Larry Clarkson [in '88]," Barton says. "Every day in training camp [defensive end] Charles Haley would run around him, then so would the second-teamer, and Larry would end up on the ground. Finally we're in a meeting one night, and Bobb says, 'Jeez, Larry, I don't think you have the coordination to take the fork from the plate to your mouth.'"

As harsh as he sometimes sounds, McKittrick gets away with it, partly because he can take criticism as unemotionally as he dishes it out. He regularly challenges his bosses in meetings, but, says Seifert, "after a while, that becomes part of the charm of the man." McKittrick says one reason he has not sought jobs with bigger titles is the political correctness he associates with such roles. "I'd rather teach than be an administrator," he says. "I don't like a lot of the things that administrators have to do."

While some head coaches might view vocal dissent as a threat, at least one of McKittrick's friends—a man who had some pretty decent success as UCLA's basketball coach from 1949 to '75—believes it's invaluable. "An assistant coach who's afraid to speak his mind isn't very helpful," says John Wooden, who grew close to McKittrick during the latter's stint as a Bruins football assistant from 1965 to '70. "A head coach should never want a yes-man: He'll just inflate your ego, and your ego's probably big enough as it is. An assistant as bright as Bobb could only be an asset."

Honest as he is, McKittrick could not bring himself to tell Teckla about his cancer. He